

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

MICHAEL F. EASLEY
GOVERNOR

LYNDO TIPPETT SECRETARY

March 17, 2004

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Regulatory Field Office 6508 Falls of the Neuse Road, Suite 120 Raleigh, North Carolina 27615

ATTN: Mr. Eric Alysmeyer

NCDOT Coordinator

Dear Mr. Alysmeyer;

Subject: Request for Modification of Nationwide Permit 23 and 33; Halifax

County, Bridge No. 62 over Beech Swamp on US 301 – NC 481, TIP No. B-2980, State Project No. 8.1301701, Federal Aid No. BRSTP-301(8)

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) proposes to replace Bridge No. 62 in its existing location on US 301 – NC 481 over Beech Swamp. Please reference Action ID. 200021473 & 200321261 dated October 3, 2003 and DWQ No. 031208 dated October 1, 2003.

IMPACTS TO WATERS OF THE UNITED STATES

After staking project, it has been determined that the discharge of fill will exceed the permitted impacts to wetlands by 0.1 acre as shown on the revised permit drawings (sheets 4-7). However this additional fill will occur in a portion of the area indicated with the dashed line already permitted for mechanized clearing, therefore staying within the existing footprint. The Nationwide Permit 23 and 33 issued for the project authorized impacts to 0.84 acres (0.53 acres of fill, 0.31 acres of mechanized clearing) of jurisdictional wetlands. The revised impacts will be 0.63 acres of fill and 0.21 acres of mechanized clearing.

TAR-PAMLICO RIVER BASIN RULES

Impacts to Tar-Pamlico River Buffers will not change from those permitted by DWQ No. 031208 dated October 1, 2003. There are 5,101 sq. ft. of impacts to Buffer Zone One and 3,899 sq. ft. of impacts to Buffer Zone Two (Buffer Impacts Summary, Sheet 16 of 17). Buffer impacts are less than 150 liner feet and less than 0.33 acres, therefore, buffer mitigation is not required.

MITIGATION OPTIONS

Proposed compensatory mitigation has not changed from that described in the original permit application for this project dated July 30, 2003. The removal of the old causeway will mean that approximately 0.1 acres of fill will be removed. It is anticipated that once the causeway is removed, the area will return to the natural hydrologic cycle for the surrounding wetlands. Compensatory mitigation for the remaining, unavoidable impacts to 0.74 acres of jurisdictional wetlands will provided by the EEP program (see attached letter dated October 2, 2004).

If you have any questions or need additional information, please call Mr. Chris Rivenbark at 919-715-1460.

Sincerely,

Gregory J. Thorpe, Ph.D.
Environmental Management Director, PDEA Branch

GJT/cr

Mr. John Dorney, NCDENR, Division of Water Quality (2 copies) cc:

Mr. Gary Jordan, USFWS, Raleigh

Mr. Travis Wilson, NCWRC

Mr. William D. Gilmore, P.E., EEP, Raleigh

Mr. Omar Sultan, Programming and TIP

Ms. Debbie Barbour, P.E., Highway Design Branch

Mr. Greg Perfetti, P.E., Structure Design Unit

Mr. Jay Bennett, P.E., Roadway Design Unit

Mr. David Chang, P.E., Hydraulics Unit

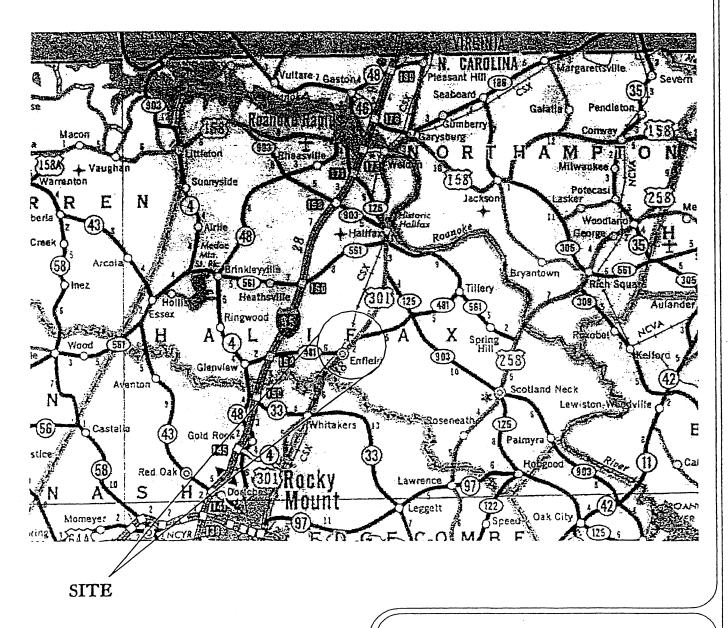
Mr. Mark Staley, Roadside Environmental

Mr. D.R. Dupree, Division 4 Engineer

Mr. Jamie Shern, Division Environmental Officer

Mr. David Franklin, USACE, Wilmington (Cover Letter Only)

VICINITY MAP B-2980



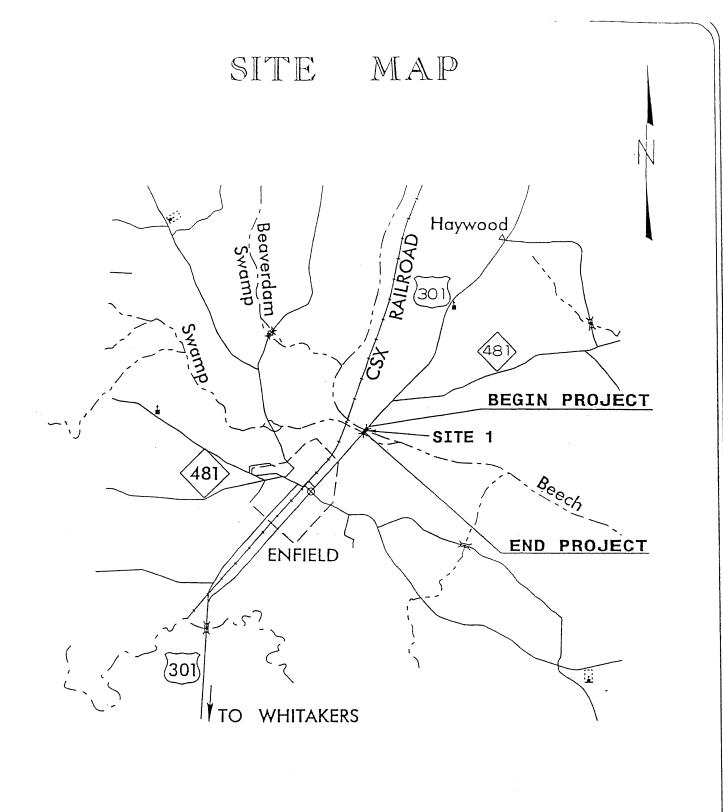
NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAYS

HALIFAX COUNTY 8.1301701(8-2980)

BRIDGE NO. 62 ON US 301- NC 481 OVER BEACH SWAMP

DATE: 10 4 02 / NOT TO SCALE

SHEET 1 OF 7



NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAYS

HALIFAX COUNTY 8.1301701(8-2980)

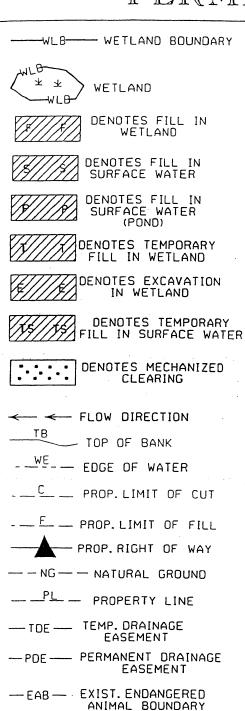
BRIDGE NO. 62 ON US 30!- NC 48! OVER BEACH SWAMP

NOT TO SCALE

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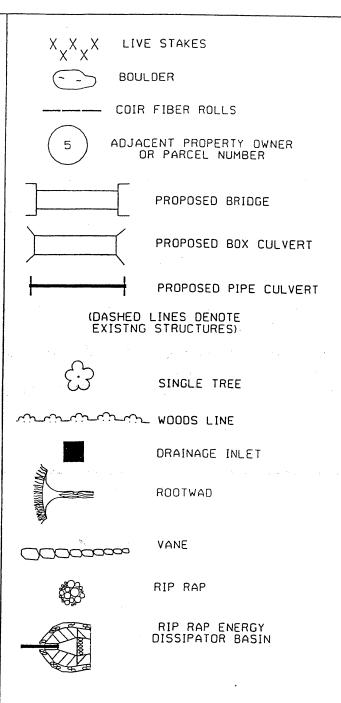
SHEET 2 OF 1

PERMIT LEGEND



--- EPB --- EXIST. ENDANGERED PLANT BOUNDARY

— -♥— --- WATER SURFACE



BUFFER ZONE

BUFFER ZONE

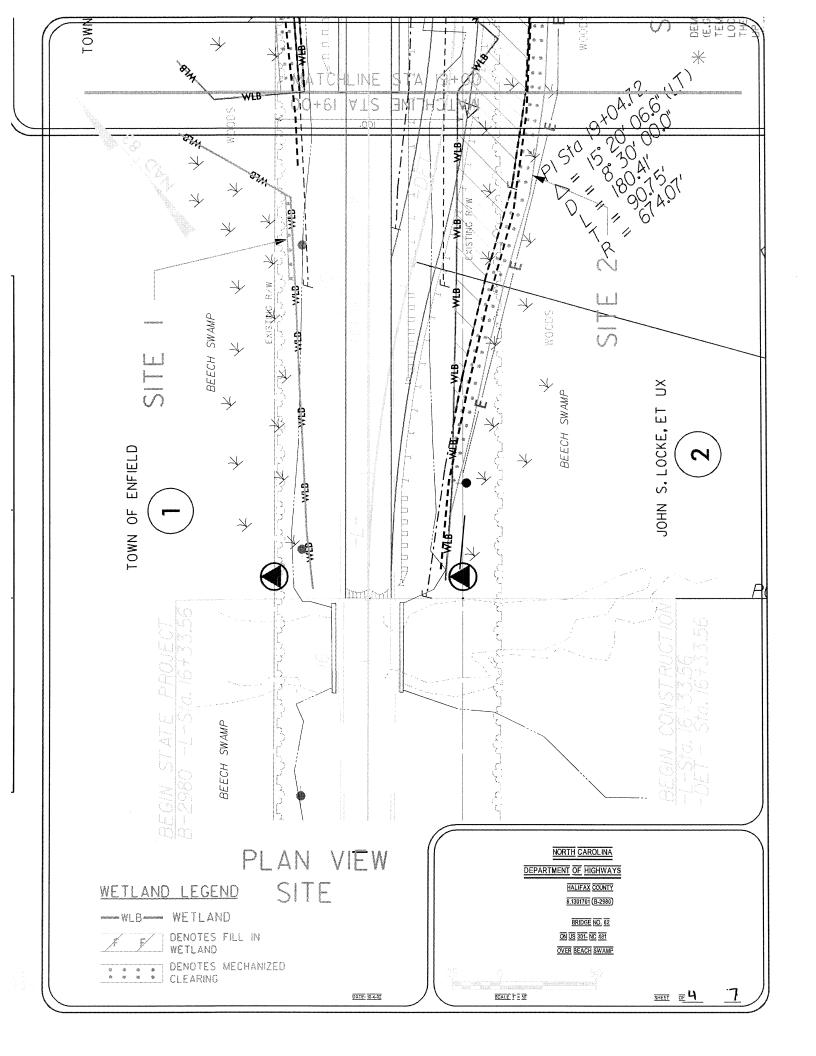
NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAYS

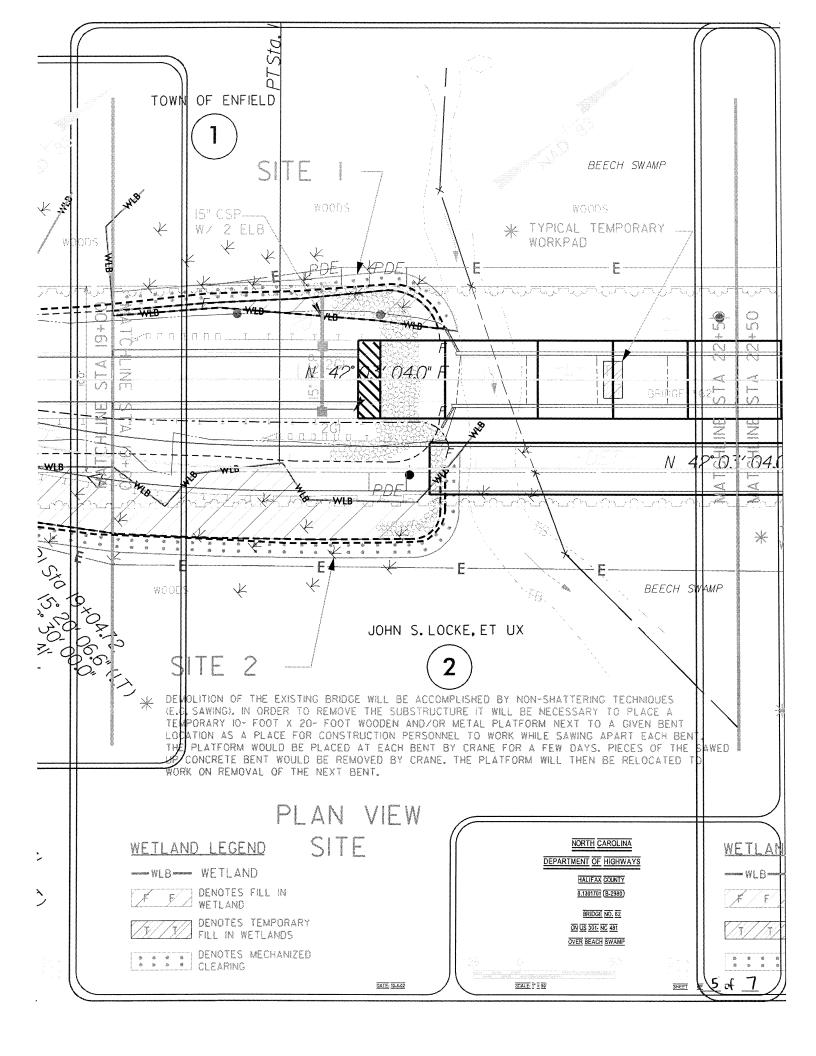
HALIFAX COUNTY 8.1301701(B-2980)

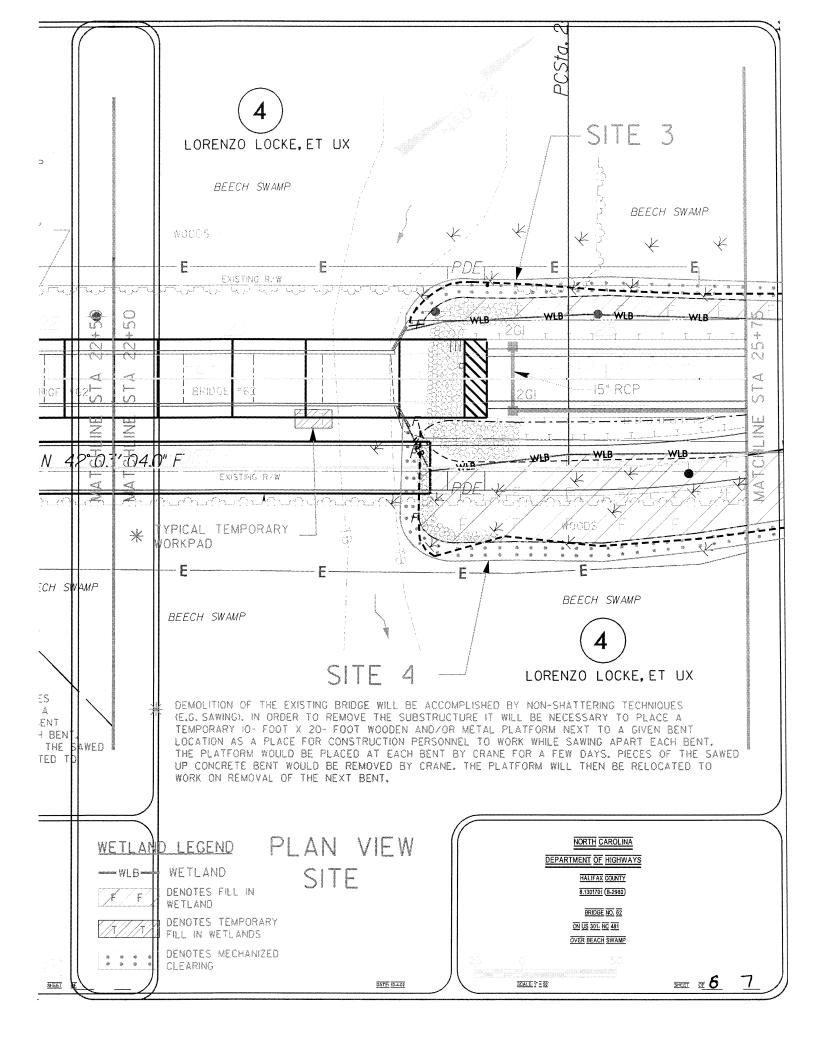
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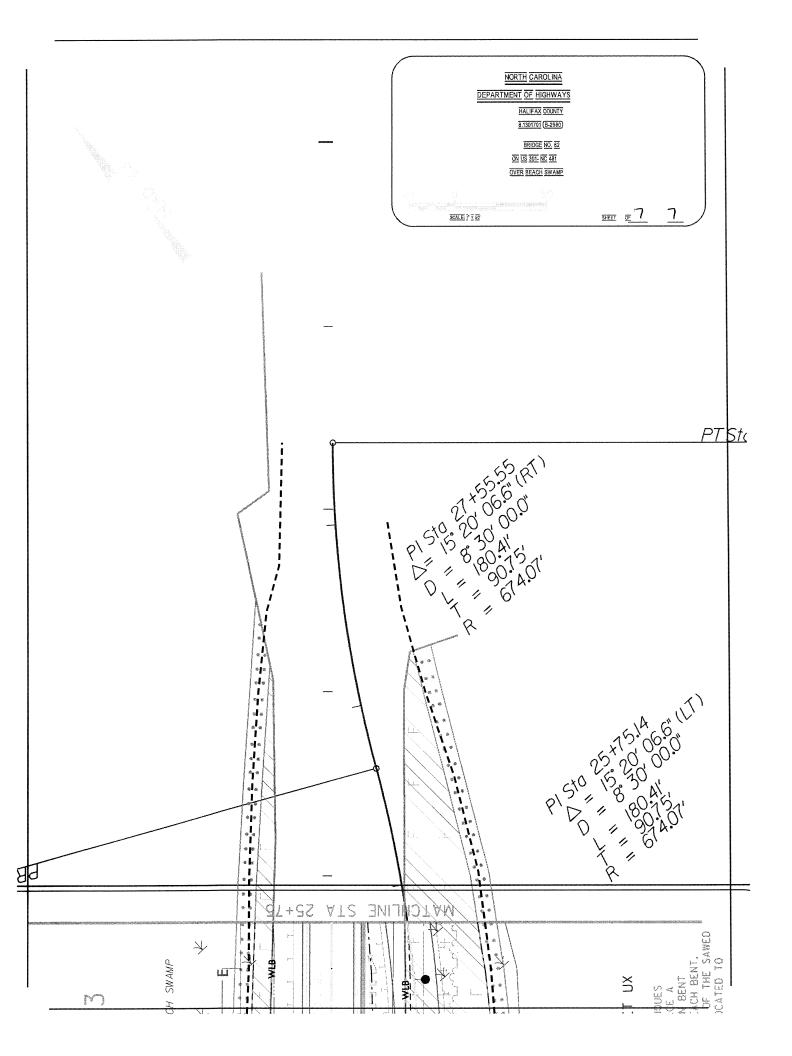
NOT TO SCALE

SHEET 3 OF 7











North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources Division of Ecosystem Enhancement

Michael F. Easley, Governor

William G. Ross Jr., Secretary

October 2, 2003

Mr. Gregory J. Thorpe, Ph.D., Manager, Project Development and Environmental Analysis Branch North Carolina Department of Transportation 1548 Mail Service Center Raleigh, NC 27699-1548

Dear Dr. Thorpe:

Subject:

Project:

Bridge Replacement, Beech Swamp, US 301-NC 481

TIP#:

B-2980

County:

Halifax County

The purpose of this letter is to notify you that the Ecosystem Enhancement Program (EEP) will provide compensatory mitigation for the subject project. Based on the information supplied by you in the permit application dated July 30, 2003, the impacts requiring EEP mitigation are located in Cataloging Unit 03020102 of the Tar-Pamlico River Basin in the Northern Inner Coastal Plain Eco-Region, and are summarized below.

Wetlands, Riverine, Impacts:

0.74 acres

As stated in the permit application, the subject project is listed in Exhibit 2 of the Memorandum of Agreement among the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Wilmington District dated July 22, 2003. The compensatory mitigation for the subject project will be provided in accordance with Section IX, EEP Transition Period, of this agreement.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at 919-715-2218.

> Sincerely, Millian De Stico

William D. Gilmore, P.E.

Transition Manager

cc:

Eric Alsmeyer, USACE-Raleigh

John Dorney, Division of Water Quality, Wetlands/401 Unit

File: B-2980